LHS LIBRARY

# Musket

Vol. XXIX, No. 7 Lexington High School, Lexington, Mass. March/April 1996

Many LHS students protested Presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan's ideas when he came to Lexington on March 2. The Buchanan campaign alleges that school officials illegally allowed the students to organize at school; the protesters claim they were only exercising their rights.

photo by Joe Yoon

## Free speech war begins here

### *Buchanan campaign, LHS clash over student rights*

by Nick Rose, Kiran Raj, Brandon Murakami, Margot Minardi, and Monica Martinez-Tamayo

Prompted by organizers from the Pat Buchanan for President campaign staff, Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Young is investigating LHS student involvement in an anti-Buchanan protest. Buchanan's campaign committee alleges that the school inappropriately and perhaps illegally allowed a student to use the schoolwide public address system to announce an organizational meeting for the protest. Young's goals are to determine what occurred at Lexington High School the day before Buchanan's public rally on the Lexington Green and to decide if school officials acted improperly.

On March 1, sophomore Rena Miller-Jacobs wrote a homeroom announcement that invited students interested in protesting Buchanan's March 2 rally to meet in G-Cafeteria after school. In accordance with the school's announcement policy, Miller-Jacobs had Assistant Principal Arthur Dulong sign the form before another student read the announcement over the loudspeaker. In a letter to the Lexington Minuteman on March 14, Miller-Jacobs wrote that the announcement "mainly said: 'All students who were interested in protesting Buchanan's candidacy for President, please come to G-Caf at 2:30 to plan a counter-rally.'" Buchanan's committee claims that school officials should not have permitted such a "political" announcement because the P.A. system, like other school equipment, is funded by taxpayers.

Buchanan's Massachusetts staff also charge that students used school supplies to make anti-Buchanan posters and that using publicly funded resources to oppose a political candidate creates a conflict of interest. Miller-Jacobs, who led the organizational meeting, said that to her knowledge, none of the student protesters used school supplies. She added that the protesting students intended to oppose Buchanan's ideas and not his rights to free speech or to run for office: "we wanted to protest his anti-Semitic, homophobic, racist views, not himself as a political figure," Miller-Jacobs said.

On Monday, March 4, two days after the Buchanan rally, Young received a call from a citizen concerned that the school had been improperly involved in the student protest. At that point, Young had "no evidence" of wrongdoing on the part of the school, but he decided to look into the matter. A few days later, a representative from the Buchanan campaign contacted Young and detailed the campaign's worries that school resources may have been used to organize the protest and that faculty had influenced student protesters.

Young met with five members of Buchanan's state and local committees on March 13. Buchanan's representatives said that they were "concerned" about the possible use of the P.A. system and school supplies to prepare for the protest. Lexington resident Dorris Traficante told the Musket she found some of the students' behavior disturbing at the rally. She also

PROTEST-
Continued on Page 3

## LHS Science Olympians set for Atlanta

by Dave Kong and Christine Chiou

The LHS Science Olympiad team, led by senior co-captains Alan Wu, Jean Park, and coach Scott Carpenter, grabbed first place at the 1996 State Science Olympiad, beating top teams from Cambridge Rindge and Latin, Acton-Boxborough and last year's champions, Newton North. Winner of the "outstanding coach award," Carpenter will now take the team to the National Competition at Atlanta, Georgia, where the team will stay at the Olympic Village.

When asked about the team's performance in comparison to previous years, three-year member David

SCIENCE-
Continued on Page 3

## Eating disorders presentation gives food for thought

by Christine Chiou

On March 5, parents and students attended a presentation on eating disorders, nutrition, and the female stereotype. Harvard faculty members and students spoke about dieting, self-esteem, and healthy eating, aiming their discourses at the female athlete population.

Among the presenters were Charles Smigelski, RD, and Richard Kadisson, Eating Disorders Coordinator for Harvard University. Smigelski gave a brief lecture about daily nutritional requirements. He says, "Ultimately, you have to think--how much should you be eating?"

Kadisson presented statistics and information about anorexia and bulimia: "About three to ten percent of females will have bulimia; about one percent will have anorexia. That means of the approximately one hundred of you sitting here, three to ten will have bulimia, and one of you will have anorexia." He also pointed out a few of the telltale signs of those with eating disorders, such as moodiness, social isolation, and lack of energy.

**"Of the approximately one hundred of you sitting here, three to ten will have bulimia, and one of you will have anorexia."**

*-Harvard eating disorders expert Richard Kadisson*

Later, three female athletes from Harvard spoke about their personal experiences with eating disorders, especially in relation to sports. The Harvard students then led group discussions, in which they brought up issues of self-esteem, the female image, and the ideal woman. Lexington students also received informational packets, containing self-analyses, statistics on dietary requirements, and guidelines for "Friends, Lovers, Roommates, and Relatives of People with Eating Disorders."

Attendance was mandatory for all female athletes. Although students agreed that the information was important to hear, most believed that the compulsory attendance rule was unwarranted and inconvenient. Junior track and tennis star Ellen Humphrey said, "The presentation was very well done and it was obvious that a lot of time was put into it. The experts from Harvard gave brief informative speeches... the students' speeches about their experiences with eating disorders added a personal aspect." However, she adds, "Two hours was a long time to spend at a presentation on a school night. The timing was very bad."

Senior track teammate Jantrue Ting concurred: "While the presentation was informative, it seemed to repeat many things I had already learned about eating disorders... I didn't think it was right that such a small segment of the population was required to attend. It made anorexia and bulimia seem like such narrow problems." Other students agreed that the program may have been unnecessary, stating that two years of life skills had taught them all they needed to know about eating disorders.

This year's spring thaw breathes new life i.

## *Inside*

S.O.S.: X-BLOCK
Even with radical schedule changes, X-block must be saved, says editor Dave Eisner. *Page 2.*

NEWS BRIEFS
Find out what's happening. *Page 3.*

TRACK SUCCEEDS
LHS brings home awards in state meets. *Page 4.*

# On liberty

In early March, dozens of LHS students publicly protested the ideas of Presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan at a political rally on Lexington's Battle Green. Many of the student protesters had attended an organizational meeting led by their peers at LHS the day before. The use of school facilities to publicize and conduct this meeting has prompted outcry from Buchanan's campaign team and some members of the community; their alarmist response seems unwarranted and even dangerous.

Public schools by nature have a two-tiered interest in protecting the free speech rights of their students. Funded and operated by the government, these institutions must strive not to compromise the individual rights guaranteed by the very laws and constitutions that give the state power. As places of learning, schools must not barricade the marketplace of ideas by cutting off discourse or activity because (for example) it seems vaguely "political."

To refute students' rights to organize politically at school, Buchanan's supporters have cited Anderson v. City of Boston, a 1978 Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court case. This decision limited "the use of governmental resources to support or oppose a ballot question" (emphasis added), without discussing advocacy for political candidates, parties, or general ideas. Anderson specifically concerned political activity by government employees; it had nothing to do with the free speech rights of students. In fact, Chapter 71, Section 82 of the state's General Laws guarantees that "the right of students to freedom of expression in the public schools of the commonwealth shall not be abridged." According to the law, free expression includes the rights of students "to express their views through speech and symbols, to write, publish and disseminate their views, to assemble peaceably on school property for the purpose of expressing their opinions."

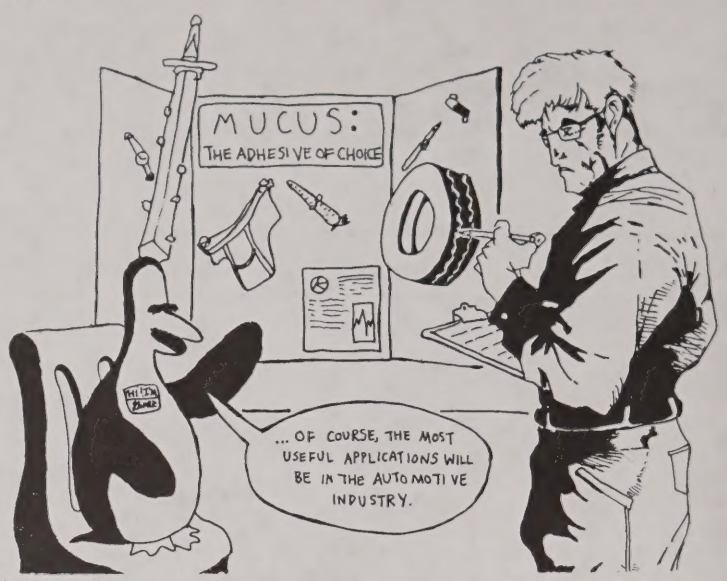
While the schoolwide public address system should not be a soapbox for student polemicists, it is the only regularly used means of communication that reaches the entire school. Announcements that inform students of political activities should be permitted; announcements that pressure students to assume a particular political stance should not be read during the schoolwide and school-sponsored announcement period. Since the announcement read on March 1 did not coerce students to take a certain point of view, it was permissible. As for the subsequent meeting in G-Caf, when students "peaceably assemble" outside school hours, their rights to free speech should not be limited at all.

The Buchanan campaign's rushed (and incorrect) assumption that the LHS student protesters could not have organized without the involvement of teachers threatens the intellectual autonomy of all members of the school community. The implication that students are too ignorant, too apathetic, or too unempowered to assert themselves dooms every attempt by students to use their free speech rights. The Buchanan campaign's flawed reasoning would permit adults to silence all student dissenters by claiming that teachers are "ring leaders" who tell student pawns what to think.

The campaign commitee's stance leaves teachers in a volatile position. If students can not talk politics at school, teaching potentially controversial material becomes extremely difficult. Many social studies, English, science, and life skills classes deal with subjects that may provoke political, religious, or social disputes. Avoiding these sensitive issues in an educational setting is in most cases detrimental to learning and in some cases impossible to do.

In the interest of free speech and sound education, the Lexington Public Schools must continue to recognize students' right to engage in political discourse and organization at school and teachers' responsibility to give lectures and hold discussions on controversial matters. Objectivity is critical: as participants and onlookers on both sides of the Buchanan rally learned, things are often much more interesting and enlightening when both sides have a chance to speak.

*Such unsigned editorials reflect the general opinions of the* Musket *editorial board.*


GOMEZ LATER WONDERED WHY HE DIDN'T PLACE AT THE SCIENCE FAIR
MUCUS:
THE ADHESIVE OF CHOICE
... OF COURSE, THE MOST USEFUL APPLICATIONS WILL BE IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY.
David Kim 3-17-96

# Students must save X-block

Massachusetts' new 990-hour requirement does not include X-block as a core class. This means that unless students and faculty rally to save X-block, it and everything it represents will be lost. X-block may not be perfect, but it is an example of the unique programs that have ranked LHS among the top schools in the country.

Losing X-block is an important issue because it would be among the first cuts influenced not by budget constraints but rather by the fact that it is not on the state list of core classes. Fortunately, with a little redesigning, X-block could become exactly the sort of program that the state wants in public schools. With some effort, LHS could serve as a model for other high schools, allowing them to have an X-block type period.

The idea that the 990-hour requirement means that LHS will definitely lose all innovative programs is a myth. The state currently has no ability to effectively enforce the education reform law. Assuming that LHS doesn't want to break the law, its loopholes could be used to make any program that prepares students for life after high school part of the core. The problem is that the process to get programs approved is bureaucratically slow and needs active support. That support must come from the students, faculty, and administration at LHS immediately. The administration is willing to discuss the existence of X-block within their new schedule. All that is needed now is student support. If X-block is lost without a fight, it will be the students' fault.

The loss of X-block is just the beginning of the kind of bureaucratic, unnecessary losses that LHS might have to suffer. Where are all the people who fought every funding-related cut in years past? Where are the people who petitioned to pass the override? Why don't they see the similar effect that the new 990 requirement is having on LHS programs? Aside from the intangible factor of parental and student involvement, the reason that LHS is successful as a high school is because of its progressive and unique programs. The variety of electives, programs, and classes at LHS is far greater that at most schools. This has always been Lexington's strength. Some of the effort that is focused on protecting LHS from the financial threat of an failing of the override must be shifted to preventing the new state mandate from having the same deflating effects.

As it stands now, X-block does not fit into the new schedule because too many students are not involved in X-block activities. The X-block of the future must be more of a general student government block. Government organizations such as Senate, Class Council, and Board of Appeals could all meet during what is now X-block. Although students would only be allowed to participate in one of these organizations, at least they would all exist. Students who do not want to be involved with government might participate in peer tutoring or group studying.

Such a revised X-block should be exactly the sort of learning experience that the state should want. The only action that needs to be taken to make this a reality is to have a proposal drawn up by students and faculty. The Senate has already formed an ad-hoc committee to write that proposal. Everyone who is interested in saving X-block should be a member of that committee. During X-blocks in the coming months, the Senate will discuss the progress being made for all those interested. Your school is in your hands now.

-David Eisner

# *Letter to the Editor*

### IN DEFENSE OF HOMOGENEOUS GROUPS

In their February editorials, Dafna Hochman and Phillip Oliff criticized homogeneous grouping as a divisive, elitist institution and asserted that heterogeneous ninth-grade classes create a climate of "tolerance" and "diversity" within the school community. However, they fail to acknowledge one starkly simple reality: the Lexington Public Schools are almost entirely heterogeneously grouped from kindergarten until eighth grade.

Lexington High School is fed by two middle schools with fundamentally similar racial and socioeconomic compositions. As a result of the METCO program, students are able to enjoy a racially diverse climate from the outset of their educational careers. I encountered students of assorted ethnic and economic backgrounds as well as students of varying abilities throughout my nine-year educational experience at the middle and elementary schools.

If nine years of social interaction are so inadequate to "alleviate cultural strife within the school community," as Hochman suggests, how exactly does a tenth year make such a crucial difference? More importantly, should the goal of somehow mystically attaining a previously unreached level of cultural pluralism override the reality of subjecting students to another year of academic monotony?

At some juncture, the educational system must provide students with the opportunity to develop specialized skills and talents. Our society simply can not function with 250 million people with exactly the same base of knowledge. Contrary to Oliff's implications, the objective of homogeneous grouping is not merely to allow the "highest achievers" to strive to "collect knowledge and vie for a better score to attain a higher status." Instead, at the secondary school and collegiate levels, homogeneous grouping permits students to develop specialized areas of knowledge that coincide with their varied interests and aptitudes.

If LHS students are united by anything, it is an ambition to attain something better than mindless, menial work. The capacity of the freshman year program to provide students with the knowledge and abilities necessary to succeed at more advanced levels of the workplace remains unproven.

-Steve Pawliczek
Class of 1996

Musket

Editor-in-Chief ..... Margot Minardi
News Editors ..... Stefanie Berman
Adam Bund
Matt Kishlansky
Editorials Editors ..... Christopher Amar
David Eisner
Steve Pawliczek
Features Editors ..... Rochelle Mackey
Nicholas Rose
Sports Editors ..... Philip Oliff
J.R. Rudman
Layout and Art Editors ..... Jesse Herman
David Myung
Photography Editors ..... Eling Chang
Tom Kennedy
Joseph Yoon
Business Manager ..... Kiran Raj
Technical Editor ..... Alex Roetter

* * *

Faculty Advisor ..... Sam Kafrissen
Printer ..... Belmont Printing Company

* * *

Reporters ..... N. Bartlett, C. Chiou, M. Comenetz, A. Fisher, D. Hochman, D. Kong, D. Lee, M. Martinez, B. Murakami, J. Needham, O. Patrick, A. Weaver, M. Wilson
Cartoonists ..... D. Kong

Thank you to Christine Chiou and David Kong.

Copyright © 1994 Lexington High School *Musket*. All rights reserved.

**The opinions expressed on these editorial pages are the views of either the *Musket* editorial board or of individual staff members. They are not necessarily a reflection of school policy, nor are they intended to mirror the ideas of every student. Therefore, *Musket* realizes its responsibility to print other opinions. Leave short, tasteful letters to the editor in the *Musket* mailbox in the LHS Student Activities Center or mail letters to the editor to: MUSKET, 251 Waltham St., Lexington, MA 02173. The Musket can be reached at e-mail at musket@stu.ci.lexington.ma.us. Only signed letters will ordinarily be printed. *Musket* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.**

Senior Lili Anderson attempts to suppress a smile as Singing Valentine C.J. DeMatteo serenades her.

photo by Eling Chang

# Buchanan rally raises student speech issues

PROTEST- From Page 1

questioned the preparations for the protest, writing in a March 14 letter to the Minuteman, "it is illegal to use the schools, equipment, or facilities for partisan political action."

Buchanan's campaign staff also suggested that, in Young's words, there "must have been adults involved" in encouraging the students to protest. In the March 7 Lexington Minuteman, Eric Belanger, Buchanan's campaign manager in Lincoln, said, "Wherever we go, there are a large amount (sic) of kids who protest. Obviously, they have been brainwashed and told what to say." In an interview last week, Young remarked that this assumption showed that Buchanan's workers "must not have known Lexington students very well."

In the weeks following Young's meeting with the campaign committee, faculty at LHS and the town's two middle schools have received messages from the Central Office and the respective school principals warning them about leading students to particular political viewpoints. At LHS, Principal Philip Lanoue in his message to the staff encouraged teachers to be "more sensitive and more politically neutral" and "committed to discussing all points of view."

As part of his investigation, the Supt. Young also met with three students who planned the protest and the meeting in G-Caf. Lanoue, who was not at the High School on March 1, stated that the Buchanan campaign is primarily concerned about how adults at the school handled the situation. Speaking for school officials, Lanoue said, "It's a decision that we made that we have to deal with."

The legal issues surrounding the use of the school P.A. system to make an announcement about a political candidate are as yet unresolved. Lanoue would like to see the announcement policy modified so that only announcements related to school functions or prepared by school-sanctioned groups would be permissible. P.A. announcements differ from posters used to advertise other political activities at LHS because students must stay in class to listen to announcements rather than just not read a hallway poster, says Lanoue.

Numerous LHS students wrote to the March 14 Lexington Minuteman defending their rights to protest against Buchanan and to organize at school. Sophomore Caitlin Feeley defended the P.A. announcement, writing "it was permissible for a meeting about the protest to be announced and held at Lexington High, as there was no reason Buchanan supporters could not have done the same."

# Good music, strings attached

by Rochelle Mackey

The Winter Orchestra Concert in the LHS gymnasium on Thursday, February 8 was a festival of string talent. Featuring all the string music students in the Lexington Public Schools, the talent level ranged from fourth grade beginners to advanced Lexington High School Orchestra members, many of whom play in other orchestras, such as the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra and "Districts."

The evening opened with the entirely out-of-tune, yet still adorable, beginning string musicians from the elementary schools playing "Au Clair de la Lune," "Playing in the Snow," and "Old MacDonald." The show moved swiftly and thankfully on through the young advanced strings, with "Simple Gifts," "Wildwood Flower," and "Kookuburra," to the All-Town Elementary Orchestra. The ATEO performed a solid rendition of "Crystal City March," then moved on through "Dona Nobis Pacem," "Ode to Joy," and "Two Dances."

The Combined Clarke/Diamond Middle School Orchestra displayed its extensive ability with "Turkey in the Straw," the Chorale and Finale from the Reformation Symphony, and "Gopak."

The last group to play was the Lexington High School Orchestra, conducted by Janet R. Haas. The LHSO began with "Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052, I. Allegro" by Johannes Sebastian Bach, featuring senior pianist Tiffany Chang. Chang, a winner in the 1996 LHS Concerto Competition, performed magnificently, attracting many compliments from the audience.

The LHSO closed the evening with "Buckaroo Holiday" from Rodeo by Aaron Copeland, a fun, peppy piece (for those readers who are not into the music scene, yes, Copland did also write the music in the "Meat! It's What's For Dinner!" commercial). As Jason LeeKeenan eloquently stated, "The Copland went well." Overall, it was a pleasant evening, a mix of performance levels, and a success. The next Lexington High School Orchestra concert will be on Wednesday, April 10.

Rena Miller-Jacobs runs into yet another problem, as faulty waterfountains in the sciencience building are being replaced.

# LHS science team is #1 in Mass.

SCIENCE- From Page 1

Kong replied, "This year's team is phenomenal; it's certainly the strongest we've had in years. With strength in every event, we should have no problem obliterating the competition."

Team members include seniors Mike Hemond, Phil Davis, Jacob Krich, and Megan Lo, juniors Dan Shiau, Tim Dunn, Christine Chiou, David Schwartz, and David Kong, sophomores Jason Leekeenan, Sheaumei Tsai, and Saro Getzoyan, and freshmen Mandar "Pit Man" Muzumdar and Kai-Jae Wang. The team was victorious due to its placement in the top three in 11 out of 18 events, including first places in Earth Science Lab with Dan Shiau and Kai-Jae Wang, Designer Genes with Jean Park and Megan Lo, Metric Mastery with David Kong, Tim Dunn, and the TI-85, and Bioprocesses Lab with Dan Shiau and Megan Lo.

The Olympiad is noted in particular for its impressively witty nomenclature. *Musket* editor-in-chief Margot Minardi commented, "event names like 'Tree-mendous' and 'Designer Genes,' are worthy of *Musket* headlines." Aside from the crazy names, the Olympiad is also recognized for its hardy competition. Tough teams from states like Nebraska, Alaska, and Wisconsin will prove to be difficult barricades for the team to overcome, but with a truckload of mentos for fresh breath and young Muzumdar as Pit Man, success is inevitable.

# News Briefs

## G-CAF HELPS THE HUNGRY

You may have noticed how crowded the cafeterias have been lately. In order to alleviate the situation, the administration has reopened the G-House serving counter, effectively adding a much-needed extra lunch line to the system. "I thought that I'd never be able to avoid those pesky lunch line traffic jams, until now," says senior Alex Roetter. A normal cafeteria, G-Caf offers the usual selection of hot lunches, chips, drinks, snacks, cookies, and ice cream products. Let's try to keep those other lunch lines less clogged, and make sure to buy your Otis Spunkmeyer chocolate chip cookies!

-Ash Weaver

## GALLERY DISPLAYS LHS ART

A collection of art created by Lexington students is currently on display and for sale at the Francesca Anderson Fine Art Gallery at 56 Adams Street. For the entire month of March, pieces created by photography, watercolor, ceramics, and drawing students are on exhibit at the gallery usually reserved for professional work. Everything from ceramic asparagus to computer graphic landscapes to photographs of Australia appear. This is the first opportunity in recent history for LHS students to appear in a commercial show. At the March 1 opening, many of the artists came to see their work, as did some of the more avant-garde faculty. The gallery's hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday through Saturday. Students' artwork is also on display at Cary Memorial Library this month.

-Max Wilson

## LHS IS STAYIN' ALIVE

The numerous LHS students invading the garment district lately are part of no bizarre occurrence. Disco junkies and rock 'n' rollers alike got revved up for the all-school Retro Dance held on Saturday, March 23, 1996. Although the Senior Class Council is organizing the dance, the four class councils are sharing the profits. According to Senior Class Council member and fifties guru Mike Dimascio, "the eclectic mix of music from the sixties, seventies, and eighties appealed to everyone." Senior Amy DiLuna agrees, stating that she hopes the Retro Dance will become a "school tradition." So check out your parents' closets or nearby thrift stores: the Saturday Night Fever will be back next year when Retro returns.

-Dafna Hochman

## CAMPUS CLOSED TO SOME

"Mr. Lanoue's honeymoon is over," commented one LHS student after the LHS principal revisited the open campus policy for freshmen and sophomores at a February 28 assembly. Lanoue is worried that many underclassmen have been leaving campus during the school day, especially at lunch time. "Ninth and tenth graders don't have [open campus], yet over time it appears by default they do... but it's not the rule or intention of open campus," he said. At the assembly, he reminded students of the penalties for being caught off campus. The first infraction results in detention and notification of the student's parents. Suspension may result from the second violation. Why the crackdown? Says Lanoue, "I'm uncomfortable with not knowing where some ninth graders are at some point in time. We get a lot of questions from parents about that."

-Owen Patrick and Matt Kishlansky

## GERMAN FEST IST GUT

On March 6, to a backdrop of colorful streamers and posters, students of German I, II, and III/IV presented the 14th annual German Fest, an evening of skits, music, and advertisements. Following a delicious meal, German filled the air as students performed material of their own creation. Many parents, teachers, and administrators attended the event. The German Fest has become quite a tradition at LHS!

-Marian Comenetz, German teacher

Andrew Richards led the 4x400 relay team that placed third at the New England Indoor Track Championships.

# Indoor track stars burst into supernova of state success

by Adam Fisher

"I knew we had the potential to go far. If we had accomplished anything less, I would have been really disappointed." These were the words of senior Andrew Richards, Lexington High boys' indoor track team tri-captain and 4x400 yard relay team member, after the relay team placed third in the New England Indoor Track Championships with a time of 3:29.67, by far the team's best effort of the season.

The 4x400 team, rounded out by sophomore Josh Muller, junior Todd Rosenfield, and senior Bryant Lee, seemed to peak at just the right point in the season. After coasting through a competitive Middlesex League schedule, they finished sixth in the Class A State Meet with a time of 3:33.27, bettered that time in the All-State Meet with a 3:31.00, and brought it to a new level with the 3:29.67 at the New England's.

With Muller and Rosenfield returning, the team hopes to build on this year's success next season, although it will be difficult to replace Lee and Richards. Despite being the lone Lexington representative to make a splash at the New England's, the boys' 4x400 team was just one of the many Lexington entries that performed well.

**"I knew we had the potential to go far. If we had accomplished anything less, I would have been really disappointed."**

*-Senior Andrew Richards*

In the Class A meet, Muller, running in the 600, finished ninth, with a time of 1:17.2. Yet the ninth time in the highly competitive field was one of the 24 fastest times in classes A,B,C, and D and earned Muller an invitation to the All-State meet.

The girls' team put forth a monster effort in the Class A meet with high finishes in seven of the meet's 12 events, placing sixth out of 22 teams. Their highest finisher was junior Kristen Johansson, who, with a time of 11:57.5 in the two mile, placed second overall. Johansson went on to finish seventh in the All-State meet, with a personal best of 11:54.8. Sophomore Grace Licorish and junior Ellen Humphrey both finished fifth in their events, Licorish in the 55 meter dash (7.57) and Humphrey in the mile (5:43.1).

In addition, junior Hillary Donnellan had a remarkable meet, finishing fifth (31'3-1/4) in the shot put. She also anchored the 4x400 relay team which finished sixth at 4:13.61. The team was rounded out by Licorish and juniors Chi-An Wang and Alexandra Bailly. Others scoring in the Class A meet were senior Michele Guinane in the 55-meter hurdles (9.36), who finished sixth, and the 4x800 relay team of Wang, Humphrey, senior tri-captain Amy Porter, and sophomore Meredith Rommelfanger, that placed third (10:13.9). The girls' team has a number of state level performers returning next year, so look for them to make even more noise in 1997.

# Tennis talent will net victories in spring season

by Nick Bartlett
and David Kong

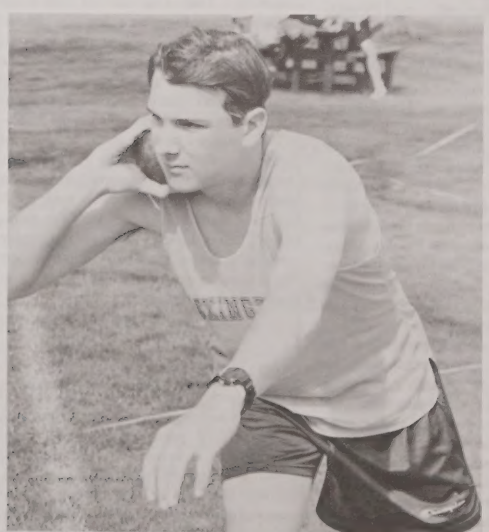
The LHS boys' tennis team is preparing for a season filled with big expectations and intense competition. With six out of eight of last year's varsity lettermen returning and a host of anxious up-and-comers hoping to contribute, the team hopes to repeat last year's highly successful season and perhaps even better it.

The returning core of the team includes highly ranked and talented junior Fabian Rabanal, expert doubles specialists Bryant Lee and Owen Patrick, and experienced seniors John Plumb and Nick Bartlett. Also looking to make big contributions in open slots are returning lettermen Jon Behar and Greg Kang, solid players Matt Finkelman, David Kong and Dave Myung, and a plethora of other talented athletes who are hoping to break through and make contributions.

The boys' team will face a tough struggle in its own Middlesex league with matches against perennial contenders Winchester and Burlington, including an early home match against the former during April vacation. Beyond the age old quest for a Middlesex league crown, the gold team has its eyes on topping last year's North Final appearance. No matter how the season unfolds, one thing is certain: with the mix of this years crop of talent and the wisdom of sage Coach George Mechem, the Minutemen will not be easily beaten.

The LHS girls' tennis team is looking forward to a successful season as it prepares to make a bid for a Middlesex League championship. After losing five letterwomen to graduation, the girls' team is hoping to make a triumphant comeback with returning junior talent Arina Zohrabian, Tessa Randall and Ellen Humphrey. The team is also counting on strong play from seniors Dafna Hochman and Dalia Hochman. New players sophomore Leela Ramnath and freshman Jasmeen Spidle will be critical to the success of this young, emerging team.

The girl's tennis team is counting on strong play from senior Dalia Hochman this spring.



Jeff Needham dispells the myth that throwers are lazy.

# No curve balls: truth about track

*As spring runners sprint toward the track, throwers dispel some myths*

by Dave Lee and
Jeff Needham

During the outdoor track and field season, the throwers tend to receive negative criticism regarding their work ethic. In this article we will attempt to clarify some of the common misconceptions surrounding the crew of the throwing events.

Myth: The throwers take trips to 7-11 every day before practice.
Fact: Sometimes we visit other fine establishments, such as McDonald's or Bruegger's.

Myth: Throwers are lazy; they really must be slow.
Fact: If we're so slow, how come Dave Lee can almost beat Adam Fisher in the 45.

Myth: Throwers never throw more than once a day.
Fact: Be realistic, we have to throw three times during a meet.

Myth: As senior Amy Porter claims, "They're so annoying, they sit around all day doing jack squat."
Fact: We do jack squat most of the time, not all of the time.

Myth: Throwers don't need to stretch before practice.
Fact: Yes we do, or we would be doing jack squat all of the time.

Myth: The coaches get fed up with the throwers' work ethic.
Fact: Not true! Coach Crosby likes the way we work the grill, especially the spicy sausages.

Myth: It must be so boring doing nothing all day.
Fact: To the untrained eye it would appear boring. However, we partake in such enthralling activities as discus golf and sunflower seed spitting contests.

Myth: Throwers are forgetful.
Fact: Waut, ahhhhhh. What did you say?

Myth: It must be hard carrying all that heavy equipment out to the track every day.
Fact: It's not that heavy when it's in the trunk of your car.

Myth: Throwers never run.
Fact: That's right!

As you can see, track is not as easy for us throwers as you thought it was. We hope that this article has clarified any doubt you may have had as to our abilities and work ethic. If you have any further questions, you can find either one of the authors in their lawn chairs on the grassy area inside the track.